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SUMMER '96

LYCOMING COLLEGE MAGAZINE

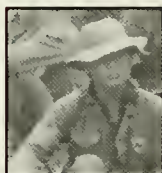
WAR
HEALTH
FOR
CHILDREN
AND OTHER
LIVING THINGS



THE WARS
OF VIETNAM



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The Road Taken



- 5 Voices From Vietnam



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HOMECOMING

96

October 4, 5, 6

Homecoming Football

Lycoming vs. FDU-Madison

1:30 p.m. Person Field

Student/Alumni Party

at the Genetti Hotel & Convention Center

Alumni Golf Tournament

Art Auction

Celebrating the Nursing Department's 10th anniversary

Welcome Reunion Classes

'46 '51 '56 '61 '66

'71 '76 '81 '86 '91

Special Reunion Activities for

1946 50th Reunion • Chairperson: Otto Sonder

1951 45th Reunion • Chairperson: Jack Breitenbach

1956 40th Reunion • Chairperson: Judith Fry Calistri

1961 35th Reunion • Chairpersons: Robert Crockett,
Kenneth Koetzner, and Dennis
Youshaw

1966 30th Reunion • Chairperson: Ralph Seigworth

1971 25th Reunion • Chairperson: J. Michael
Schweder

1976 20th Reunion • Chairperson: TBA

1981 15th Reunion • Chairperson: Debra Suplee
Donahue

1986 10th Reunion • Chairperson: Betty
Barrick North

1991 5th Reunion • Chairpersons: Melissa Lyons and
Malena DeMore Pearson

**For additional information, contact the Office of
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Commencement 1969. Tom McElheny was easy to spot during Commencement. Out of a sea 347 seniors in caps and gowns, he was the only one wearing a dress white Marine uniform.

McElheny had joined the Marine Corps in the middle of his junior year out of sense of duty, but also, he reflects, as a revenge for the deaths in Vietnam of two of his fraternity brothers.

He had thought about the military for some time. In fact, four years before, he had been recruited by the U.S. Coast Guard Academy to play football, only to fail the eye examination required for admission. (Later, when he was recruited by the Marines, McElheny solved the eye examination problem by paying the recruiter \$25 to take his exam.)

At Commencement Tom marched to the flag court to receive his commission as a second lieutenant from Governor Scranton himself.

► Watching him, Michael Musheno thought that the ceremony seemed a little out of character for Lycoming. "I was amazed by the attention paid to Tom McElheny. The war wasn't a real central issue at the College," says Musheno. "Tom seemed to be prop for some of the politics going on."

Mike has known Tom forever. Both had gone to South Williamsport schools

together and both joined the same fraternity at Lycoming. But the two, Musheno feels, were different in a number of fundamental ways.

Perhaps because his own home life was difficult, Mike had begun questioning "the way things were politically" back in high school. So it seemed only

natural to major in political science at Lycoming.

In 1967, the summer after his sophomore year, Mike went to Washington, D.C., as part of Lycoming's Washington Semester

Program. There he joined a reading group about Vietnam and became an early skeptic of the war. It was a time of

"We were ordered to kill as many of the Viet Cong coming in at night as we could."

the anti-poverty legislation and of new ideas like Head Start taking hold. Musheno found himself caught up in the politics of the time and in the anti-war activity.

During that summer, he tagged along to the "March to the Pentagon." The demonstration led to a very strong police/military presence, and the experience had a pro-found affect on Mike. "I saw people returning, dazed, from the 'front lines'," he recalls.

When Musheno returned to Lycoming that fall, he had a new mustache, longer hair, and a very different perspective. His fraternity brothers at Alpha Sigma Phi greeted him by shaving off his new mustache.

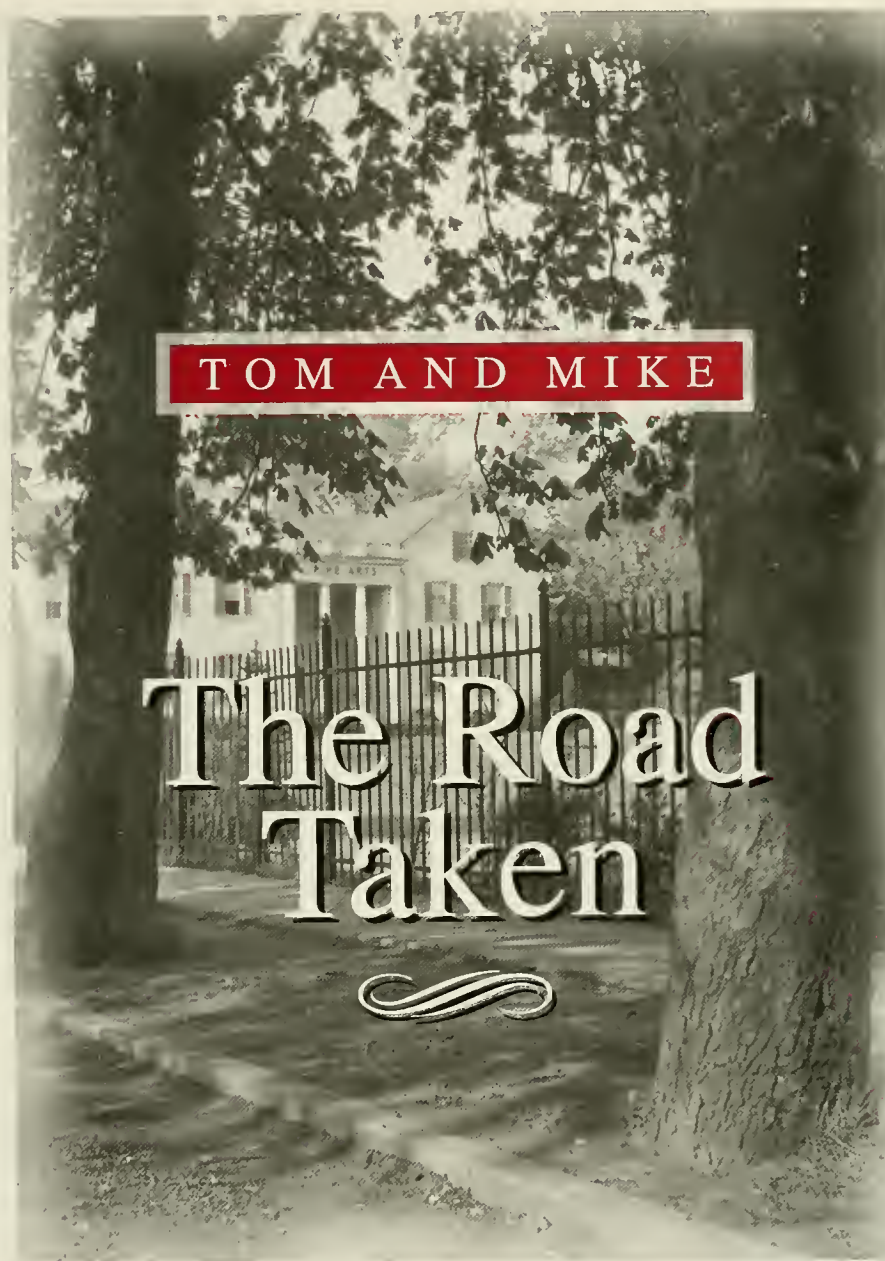
"It was symbolic of the transition I was going through at the time. They knew I had changed," says Musheno.

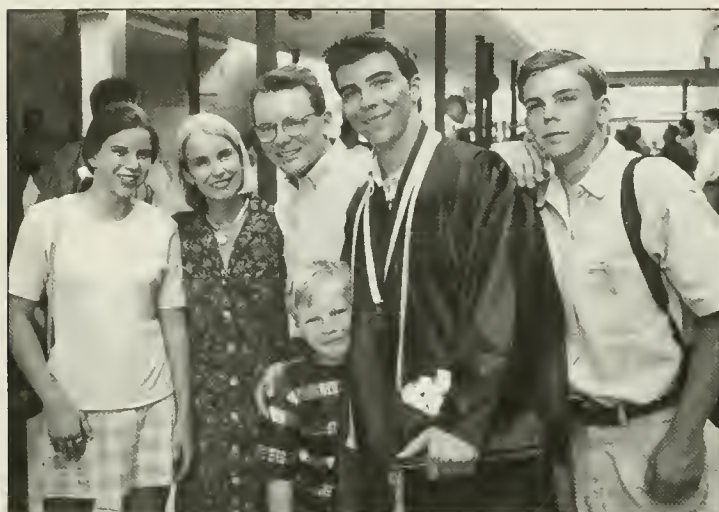
In June of 1969, Mike headed for Washington, D.C., to begin a graduate fellowship at The

American University and Tom headed to the Marine base at Quantico, Virginia.

► Tom, the guy who could have been...should have been classified 4-F, received orders for Vietnam several months later. Nothing had quite prepared him for a tour of duty that would forever shape his life. Not only was he in a war, he was also responsible for the lives of other men.

By June 1970, he was commanding a rifle platoon on Hill 190 northwest of





Tom McElheny (center) with family at his oldest son's high school graduation. From left: Caitlin, wife Diane, Carrick, Tavis, and Cail



McElheny as a young Marine in 1969.

Danang. He quickly fell into a routine of running ambushes and patrols to keep the Viet Cong at bay.

"We were ordered to kill as many of the Viet Cong coming in at night as we could," recounts McElheny.

There were many "incidents" but one in particular occupies his memory. On November 6, he and a squad of 13 men were chosen to move into Kim Lien village after dark to intercept VC

assassination teams that were fond of flexing their political muscles by killing a village chieftain or some of his family. The mission, says McElheny was "like churning shark-infested water with fresh bloody meat and then diving in to figure out if you can swim safely."

Spaced five meters apart, so that a mine would take no

more than one of them out, the squad moved through the town. "Suddenly shots erupted all around us," Tom remembers. "The VC burst into the huts and began to use villagers as cover. I remember one shrieking woman running out of her hut with a baby in her arms and dragging another child about four years old." McElheny saw the shrapnel strike her body.

"A lieutenant from Intelligence put his hand on my shoulder and told me 'It's

all right, lieutenant. It's your job.' It may have been my job, but it could also break your heart." (McElheny would earn a bronze star medal for that night.)

In the morning, an old Vietnamese couple appeared in front of the village. They had come back to take away the body of their son.

"Our eyes locked on each other. At that moment I imagined myself in his situation. I had never done that before. I was twenty-two years old and never thought of having a son. Years later, when I faced the loss of my own son, I could see that old man's face," says McElheny.

In March 1971, McElheny received orders for a reserved seat on the "freedom bird," the plane that flew troops out of Vietnam. He decided, however, to go back to Hai Van Pass to say goodbye to his troops. Without authority to visit the area, McElheny scrounged a jeep and driver. While he was there, a Viet

Cong fired a rifle-propelled grenade which exploded against the side of the bunker. Tom took some shrapnel in his left hand and rear.

"The wound felt like hot splinters burning into my skin. But if I went to the hospital, they would keep me and I wouldn't catch my freedom bird. Besides, the battalion commander would eat me alive for the unauthorized visit. I determined that nothing would stop my getting out of Vietnam as scheduled. I didn't even change out of the clothes that I had been wearing during the ambush. I was smelly and dirty, but I didn't care."

"I determined that nothing would stop my getting out of Vietnam as scheduled... I was smelly and dirty, but I didn't care. I was alive, and I was going home."

I was alive, and I was going home," says McElheny.

Twenty-four hours after leaving the combat scene, McElheny was in Los Angeles. After a four-hour layover, spent in Disney World, McElheny landed in Washington D.C. where he decided to stop over and visit Mike Musheno.

► But Mike and his wife had already made plans. Musheno was to serve as a "marshall," for the anti-war rally.

Mike had married fellow student Joan Westlake '71, "the first feminist I had ever met," the June after graduation. He had a graduate assistant fellowship at the American University and supplemented the stipend by working for Congressman Schneebeli who represented Lycoming County. (He also



McElheny receives his commission during Commencement 1969.



The 1960s was a time of a new emerging feminist movement on campus as well as the anti-war movement.



had made the decision to go to Canada if his draft number came up. It was never drawn.)

Off hours from her work as a reporter for a trade magazine, Joan threw herself into the emergent feminist movement (she was one of the founders of the first street clinic to deal with women health issues). Mike threw himself into the anti-war movement activities that were swirling about American University.

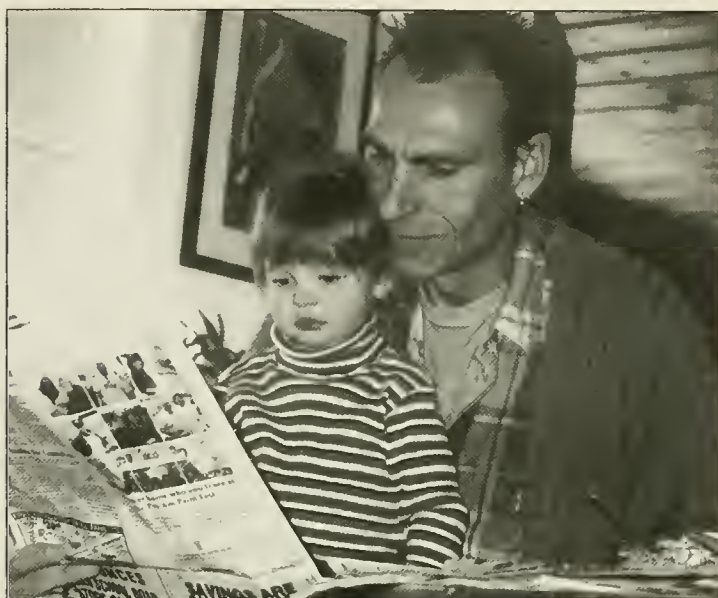
"Many of the top officials of government had their limos go by Ward Circle, which is contiguous to the University," says Musheno. "We would block traffic at times we knew they were coming through until the police arrived to break up the rally."

Joan and Mike began marching in all of the big rallies. "I became a marshal—one of the people whom the New Mobilization designated to keep a buffer between the police and marchers. I worked my way up the organization to where I served as a marshal around the speakers podium for a number of large rallies," says Musheno.

In 1971, he and Joan answered an ad to form a rural commune just outside of Washington D.C.

"We had an incredible facility—a nine bedroom former estate with 1200 acres of land and 12 people. It was here that I learned to cook, engage in self-governance, and recognize that politics begins at home. We had a number of small businesses (a sand candle factory), and we had a large garden," he continues. "Londonderry Farm" gained a reputation among people living in communes as one of the best. Yes, they smoked marijuana and did a little experimenting with drugs, Mike admits.

Joan and Mike loved Tom as a brother. "He appeared dazed to us upon his arrival," says Mike. "It was an awkward time for both Tom and our friends. We couldn't believe he wanted to attend a

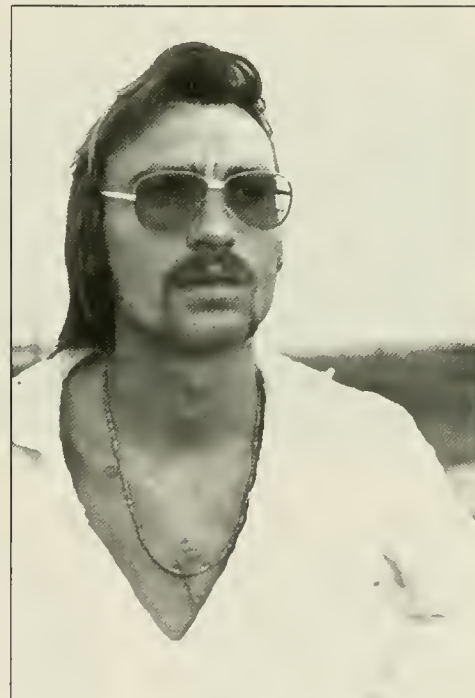


Michael Musheno (now) with daughter Micah

rally we were committed to. We urged him to stay home and rest, but he wanted to see first-hand what he had been hearing about in the news and in our letters."

► "To his credit, Mike never treated me as the enemy or a warmonger. I was Tom, his old friend," says McElheny.

"That evening, when we got to the Washington Mall, I saw thousands of people—mostly teens or early twenties—all protesting the Vietnam War. Many openly smoked marijuana and others took different kinds of dope." "I wasn't in uniform, but I had a military haircut. I felt they didn't care about me. That was strange because they were supposed to be there out of deep concern for oppressed draftees. From listening to them, it was obvious they assumed I had



Michael Musheno (then)

nothing to say," Tom continues.

"Another thing, everyone seemed intense. It didn't seem as if they had gathered for a protest so much as they had used it as an opportunity to shout out against authority. Not even in Vietnam had I heard such crude expletives."

McElheny returned to duty and became part of Anglico, an elite combat unit. A good Marine, McElheny

"I used to think that federal legislation was needed to provide programs. Now, I feel that I have to develop my own strategies."



Lycoming students and townspeople march on Williamsport in protest of the Vietnam War, an event that became more frequent as the war wore on through the 1960s and into the 1970s.



An evacuation team helps another soldier leave Vietnam.

now wanted to become a super Marine. Overcoming a fear of heights, he became a paratrooper and an airborne instructor. At 23, McElheny was a hard, intense and totally professional Marine officer. He demonstrated his toughness to his colleagues, one time, by biting the head off a 4-foot black snake.

But two years later, Vietnam caught up with him. This was not the career he wanted. He started graduate school at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, combating frequent nightmares about Vietnam. Then he met and married his wife, Diane.

Over the next 20 years, McElheny earned an MBA

and a Ph.D. in adult education. He started Jack Frost Industries (a manufacturer of cold packs) and founded the third largest executive training program in U.S. He also held positions as a college professor and CEO of a public company. Today, in his fourth career, he heads up the nationally prominent Christian Purchasing Network and lives in Sarasota, Florida.

► Musheno continued his interest in politics by serving as an early political director for the McGovern Campaign. While he was participating in anti-war rallies and supporting a number of causes, he was also pondering the issues

of justice and authority in graduate school. His doctoral dissertation was on police and their interactions with street people.

In 1973, he joined the political science faculty of City University of New York—Brooklyn. After teaching at University of Minnesota and University of Kansas, Musheno settled into academic life at Arizona State University, becoming a full professor in 1981. He is also the founding

director of the Ph.D. program in Justice Studies and the former chair of the School of Justice Studies, a program with 21 faculty members.

In 1984, Musheno received a Mid Career Fellowship for post-doctorate study at Yale University in law and psychology. He became interested in AIDS when he studied the history of disease scares. On his return, he founded a street center for HIV women in Phoenix.

Musheno says he is more realistic than he used to be. "I used to think that federal legislation was needed to provide programs. Now, I feel that I have to develop my own strategies. I feel that groups targeted for public policy need to play an active role in formulating that policy," he says.

The two friends have moved closer together on a number of issues—most notably on importance of family. Musheno, married for the second time to Birgit Vencill Musheno, an inner city high school teacher, now has a two-year-old child. McElheny has been in "a traditional and very happy marriage" for 23 years. The father of four, he has lived through the 8-year ordeal of his youngest son, Carrick, in his battle to overcome a defective heart.

The nation's view of Vietnam and the Anti-war Movement has also changed over the years. Age, too, has mellowed both the warriors and the war-nots.

"I'm proud of the transformations I have made in

my personal and professional life, and remaining loyal to people who helped me along the way," says Musheno. I wouldn't want to change anything I did during those years.

"I've learned that happiness boils down to

creating and contributing and putting God at the center of it all," says McElheny. I'm just embarrassed that it has taken 49 years and all those bruises to figure out what is so essentially simple." ▲

**The two friends
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Voices from Vietnam

Early Days of Patriotism

In the early sixties, life had a certain routine about it. "For most of us in this period time, joining the military was the thing to do," recalls Tom Senior '63. "You went to college, served time in the armed forces, got a good job, and got married. I was young enough at the time that I wanted to go to Vietnam. In fact I had a 'let's go get 'em tiger' attitude," says Senior.

And so Tom Senior was commissioned a 2nd Lieutenant in the Marine Corps at graduation.

was made a PLC (platoon leader) and was sent to DaNang air force base as part of the I Corps. There he was assigned to guard the perimeter of the air strip.

The Americans protected one side of air strip; the Vietnamese had the other. For Tom, the tour of duty—while by no means a day at the beach—was more educational than traumatic.



Tom Senior '63 receives Navy Commendation Medal at Camp LeJeune, N.C.

"It was an experience that I'll remember and I have no regrets at all," he says. Most

profound are his memories of the Vietnamese and his introduction to third world poverty.

"Although I have some misgivings now [about our involvement], I felt that we

should have been there. We were bound by a SEATO treaty to defend a country that had been attacked."

Things hadn't heated up yet.

"My survival skills were honed as I learned the value of patience, planning, and perseverance"

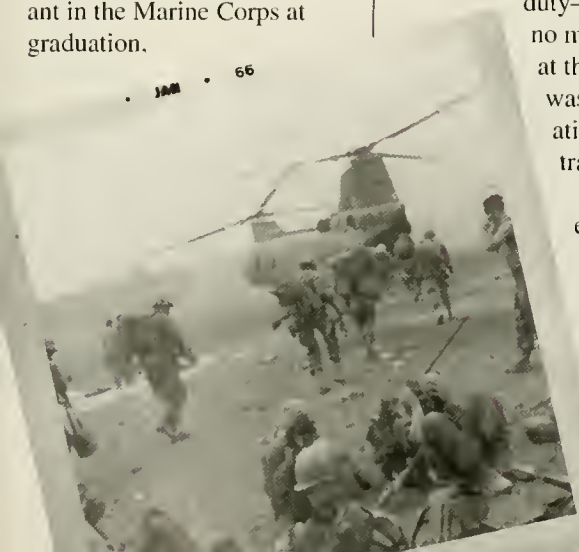
A Defining "Life Event"

By 1968, things had heated up. Six months after graduating from Lycoming, Raymond J. Enstine, Jr. was drafted into the Army. On Thanksgiving Day 1969, he was on his way to Vietnam, assigned to A Battery 1/82nd Artillery, American Division (23rd Infantry Division), which was headquartered in Chu Lai in I Corps, northern Vietnam.

Enstine was a crew chief on a 155mm howitzer with the rank of Sgt E-5. His first duty was at LZ (Landing Zone) Dottie located near infamous My Lai. In fact, the Peers investigation was



Tom Senior and wife, Cozy, today.



mander of the Naval Reserve after 37 years of military service. For 30 years, he taught in the Mathematics Department at Williamsport Area High School. Surviving are his wife, **PHYLISS (BUCKINGHAM) '47** and **'68**. Other survivors include a stepson, **JAY BUCKINGHAM '73**, and a stepdaughter, **RUTH BUCKINGHAM BENNETT '77**.

1953 • SEARLE DUANE SWISHER died January 3, 1996, in Charles Cole Memorial Hospital, Couder-sport, Pa., after a lengthy illness. While enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, he attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his master's degree. He was then employed as a research meteorologist by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Association for the Atomic Energy Commission Administration in Oak Ridge, Tenn., until his retirement in 1986. In addition to his wife, June, he is survived by a daughter and three sons.

1959 • PATRICIA STANTON GRIECO died April 11, 1996, at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pa., following a brief illness. For 36 years, she was the owner and instructor of Pat Grieco School of Dance, Hughesville, Pa., retiring in December 1995. She was a Lycoming College cheerleader and selected twice for the Homecoming Court. She is survived by her husband, **CARMINE '57**, three sons, and a daughter. Her son, **TIM**, is a 1984 graduate.

1960 • S. JAMES BASSETT died May 17, 1996, at the MacMinn Farms in Eldred Township, Pa. A self-employed land developer, he

served as Williamsport's city managing director from 1972 to 1974. He earned his master's degree from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania. He is survived by his wife, Deanna, a daughter, three sons, two brothers, and six grandchildren.

1964 • VELMA COLLEY STARK died on August 7, 1996. She was a retired kindergarten teacher and had resided in Williamsport, Pa.

1965 • PATRICK M. GRIFFIN died January 6, 1996, in The Williamsport Hospital & Medical Center, Williamsport, Pa. He was the owner and operator of Patrick M. Griffin Public Accounting Service, Williamsport, for more than 25 years. He was a veteran serving with the Army and Army Reserves during the Vietnam War. He is survived by his mother, two daughters, a brother, and a sister.

1968 • DAVID G. PATTON died on January 24, 1996, in Fayetteville, Ga. He was employed as a salesman by Broderic & Bascom Wire Rope Co., St. Louis, Mo., and MacWhite Wire Rope Co., Kenosha, Wis. He is survived by his wife, Jill, a son, a daughter, and his mother.

1969 • DOUGLASE. TOOTHAKER died February 10, 1996, at his home in Pottstown, Pa. He was sales representative for Great Dane Trailer Co., Lancaster, Pa. He is survived by his wife, Nancy, a daughter, his mother, a sister, brother, and half-brother.

1970 • HERBERT D. LANDON died on January 24, 1996, of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. A licensed insurance agent, he

was a partner of Baker/Landon Associates, Montoursville, Pa., and was a Member of the Million Dollar Round Table's 1995 Top of the Table, which placed Baker/Landon among the top 1/10 of 1 percent of all professional life insurance producers. He had resided in Forty Fort, Pa., and is survived by his wife, Deborah, his son, and several aunts and cousins.

1973 • DAVID M. FLANAGAN died on January 9, 1996, at Lawrence & Memorial Hospital, New London, Conn. He worked at Mitchell College in New London as equipment manager and sailing coach for the past year. He is survived by his wife, Patricia, three brothers, and a sister.

1983 • ISABEL GAY PONTIUS died on March 30, 1996, at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville, Pa., from injuries sustained in an automobile accident. She was employed by St. Boniface Catholic School, Williamsport, as an art teacher. In addition to her husband, Bill, she is survived by a son, her mother, and two brothers.

Honorary Degree Recipients
REV. DR. LEON WEBSTER BOUTON died on April 24, 1996, in Endwell, N.Y. He retired from the Wyoming Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1970, after 44 years in the ministry. He received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Lycoming College in 1962. He is survived by two sons, **WILLIAM D. BOUTON '62**, David W. Bouton, and a daughter, Mary Wilson.

DR. JOHN B. HOWES died on December 12, 1995, at his home in Emmitsburg, Md. He was the recipient of an

Honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from Lycoming College in 1966. He retired in 1979 from the faculty of Wesley Theological Seminary. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth, and a daughter.

DR. MYRONE WICKE died in December 1995. An ordained Methodist minister, he had retired as general secretary of the Division of Higher Education, Board of Education, The United Methodist Church. He is survived by his wife.

Owen J. Mahon, Sr., who taught accounting at Lycoming College from 1973-1979, died January 17, 1996, in Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg, Pa. He is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters, two brothers, and a sister.

TWA Flight 800

The terrible loss of TWA Flight 800 has affected virtually every business, school, and place of worship in the county. Several of our Lycoming College families lost loved ones on the flight.

Yvonne Mitchell '91 and an instructor in the Music Department lost her daughter, Michelle Bohlin.

Glenda Grimm, our Nursing Skills Lab Manager and Charles F. Grimm '68, lost their daughter, Julia Grimm.

Gary Hettler '99, a member of our football team, lost his brother, Rance Hettler.

Judy Fry Calistri '56 lost her sister-in-law Carol Fry.

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WILLIAMSPORT, PA 17701-5192

VOLUME 12 • NO. 1

Calendar of Events

September 5

"America 1996: Hate and Violence in an Age of Anger" by Jack Levin, 8:00 p.m. Free.

♦ ♦

September 11

"Checking In, Checking Out," by "Foreign Correspondence," Fall Symposium. Arena Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Free

♦ ♦

September 12

Art Gallery Opening with William D. Davis from Shippensburg. 4:00-6:00 p.m.

♦ ♦

September 17

"Vote for Me: Politics in America" with discussion by filmmaker Louis Alvarez, Fall Symposium. 7:30 p.m. Free.

♦ ♦

September 19

"The Humanity of Presidential Politics" Bob Edgar. 7:30 p.m. Free

♦ ♦

October 4-5-6

Homecoming Weekend.

♦ ♦

October 4

Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner. For ticket information call 717-321-4270.

♦ ♦

October 10

"The Holocaust" Michael Berenson, director of the Holocaust Museum. Clarke Chapel. 8:00 p.m. Free.

♦ ♦

October 15

"The Economic War Against Women" by Ronnie Steinberg. 7:30 p.m. Free.

♦ ♦

October 15

Williamsport Symphony Orchestra with Christopher Taylor, pianist. Community Arts Center. 7:30 p.m.

♦ ♦

October 17

Art Gallery Opening. Christina Bothwell and Cynthia Stone. 4:00-6:00 p.m.

♦ ♦

October 22

Poetry Reading, Paul Zimmer, director of the University of Iowa Press. 7:30 p.m. Free.

♦ ♦

November 1, 2, 3

Parent's Weekend

♦ ♦

November 23

Lycoming College Artists Series. Christine Lavin, folk singer. Clarke Chapel. 7:30 p.m.

Second Class Postage

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